airports in countries East and West of India which necessitates such flights to operate during night in India. However efforts are made to see that there is no confusion or chaos. There are 12 immigration counters for departure and 10 for arrival. There are three X-ray machines and screening of baggages is fast and does not normally take more than 10 minutes in the queue for security check. Three of four conveyer belts have customs X-ray machines and the baggage is screened as per requirement. All areas including visitors area have ladies and gents toilets and location is prominently indicated in three languages. Adequate pictographs/sign boards are provided for guiding users. To improve the space shortage, Arrival hall has recently been extended. Some of the international arrivals and departures are also handled in domestic terminal. A new international departure complex is being constructed, which is likely to be commissioned by March, 2003 and thereafter the International Arrival Hall will be expanded to double the capacity with improved facilities. Airport upgradation being an on-going process, continuous efforts are made by the Airports Authority of India to improve the standard of services.

Traffic between India and UK

3643. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a speedy recovery in the traffic between India and the UK;

(b) if so, whether the British Airways is planning to spread its wings to Bangalore and Hyderabad and has decided to expand capacity in the Indian market in a big way;

(c) if so, what are the UK based airline connections at present;

(d) to what extent it will be more during the current financial year; and

(e) whether the British Airways is also consideration to hike fares?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) For every month since October, 2001 to February, 2002, month-wise traffic between India ans UK has

gone down in comparison to the corresponding month of the previous year. However there is increase in monthly passengers between India and UK since October, 2001.

(b) Hyderabad and Bangalore are presently not available as points of call to the British Airways.

(c) British Airways is operating 7 services per week each to Mumbai and Delhi and 2 services per week each to Chennai and Kolkata. Virgin Atlantic Airways is also operating 2 services per week to Delhi out of the unutilised entitlement of Air India.

(d) The designated airline of UK is presently entitled to operate 16 services per week to specified points in India and another 3 services to Kolkata. The actual number of services to be operated by British Airways within its entitlement is decided by them according to their commercial judgement.

(e) No such information is available with the Government.

Findings of the air crash near Mainpuri

3644. DR. KARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had instituted an inquiry into the air crash near Mainpuri on September 30, 2001 involving Shri Madhavrao Scindia, the then Deputy Leader of Opposition, Lok Sabha and seven others including journalists and pilots:

(b) if so, what are the details of the findings and whether any person was found responsible therefor and the recommendations made in the enquiry report; and

(c) whether the recommendations made in the reports of such accidents have been implemented; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the Committee of Inquiry, set up to investigate the cause of the accident, this mishap occurred due to the fact that